



MISHPOCHOLOGY

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Zoom Program: Sunday, December 19, 2021

(12:45 p.m. Socializing) (1:00 p.m. Program)

The 1950 Census – Are You Ready?

By Peggy Jude

For more information or to access the Zoom link:

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President's Shpiel

By Kim Sheintal

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida focuses most of its programs and newsletters about how to trace one's family and how to obtain documents, photos, maps, etc. Think for a moment as to who will get your collections. People often donate their genealogical research, heirlooms, and life stories to Family Search History Library, Allen County Public Library, Daughters of the American Revolution, New England Historic Genealogical Society and/or to specific State/County Societies.

Jewish genealogy is unique and has an additional list of places to donate such as U.S. Holocaust Museum, Center for Jewish History (which includes American Jewish Historical Society, American Sephardi Federation, Leo Baeck Institute New York, Yeshiva University Museum, and YIVO Institute for Jewish Research), Yad Vashem, and ANU Museum. Often people will donate their Jewish collections to specific repositories in the area where one's ancestors lived such as the Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center (an archival repository for Jewish life in the Greater Boston area and New England communities), the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU, Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington, and Orange County Jewish Historical Society (in California). The USC Shoah Foundation has over 54,000 video testimonies of survivors and witnesses of genocide.

Pages two and three have a list of websites to help you decide where to donate your Jewish family memories and discover what has already been donated. Who is going to get all of your genealogical papers, heirlooms, and stories or do you plan to donate your collections to a repository (library, museum, historical society, etc.)? How are you going to organize everything? Please share your tips as to how you have organized your research, what you are saving in regard to your genealogical research, and what will be the future home of your genealogical collections. I look forward to hearing from you at klapshein@aol.com.

The 1950 Census – Are You Ready Sunday, December 19 at 1:00 p.m. on Zoom

Peggy Jude is a speaker, educator, and researcher who has been conducting genealogical research for her family and clients for over 40 years. Peggy is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, a graduate of ProGen, and an alumnus of multiple advanced genealogical institutes.

The 1950 U.S. Federal Census will be released to the public on April 1, 2022. Learn more about the 1950 census, steps needed to get ready, and how to make them most of this exciting new genealogical resource. For the Zoom link, contact Kim Sheintal at klapshein@aol.com or 941-302-1433.

Center for Jewish History

The **Center for Jewish History** is a partnership of five Jewish history, scholarship, and art organizations in New York City housed at one location. Their collections make up the biggest repository of Jewish history in the United States. The Center for Jewish History serves as a centralized place of scholarly research, events, exhibitions, and performances.

"The **American Jewish Historical Society** was founded in 1892 with the mission to foster awareness and appreciation of American Jewish history and to serve as a national scholarly resource for research through the collection, preservation and dissemination of materials relating to American Jewish history. The **American Sephardi Federation** is a non-profit Jewish organization that strengthens and organizes the religious and cultural activities of Sephardic Jews, preserves Sephardic heritage, tradition and culture in the United States, and assists in the publication of books and literature dealing with the Sephardic culture and tradition. The federation also works to further awareness of the former existence of large Jewish communities in the Muslim and Arab world. The **Leo Baeck Institute** (LBI) is a research library and archive in New York that contains the most significant collection of source material relating to the history of German-speaking Jewry, from its origins to the Holocaust, and continuing to the present day. The **Yeshiva University Museum** is a teaching museum and the cultural arm of Yeshiva University." Source: Wiki

"The **YIVO Institute for Jewish Research** is dedicated to the preservation and study of the history and culture of East European Jewry worldwide." Source: <https://www.yivo.org/>

Wonderful World of Websites

<https://ajhs.org/donate-collection>

Donating to American Jewish Historical Society

<https://genealogy.cjh.org/familycollections.php>

Family History Collections at American Jewish Historical Society

<https://www.ajhs.org/online-catalog>

Online Catalog at American Jewish Historical Society

<https://americansephardi.org/contact/>

General Inquiries to American Sephardi Federation

<https://archives.cjh.org/repositories/4/resources/190>

Records of the World Sephardi Federation

<https://www.lbi.org/support/donate-historical-materials/donating-covid/>

Donating to Leo Baeck Institute New York

https://search.cjh.org/primo-explore/search?vid=lbi&lang=en_US

Online Catalog at Leo Baeck Institute New York

<https://www.lbi.org/collections/digibaek/>

Digital Collections at Leo Baeck Institute New York

<https://www.yumuseum.org/collections>

Collections at Yeshiva University Museum

<https://www.yumuseum.org/collections/index/search>

Collection Form at Yeshiva University Museum

<https://www.yivo.org/donate-materials>

Donating to YIVO Institute for Jewish Research

<https://www.yivo.org/archives>

Collections at YIVO Institute for Jewish Research

<https://yivo.org/Archives-Library>

<https://yivo.org/Library>

<https://yivo.org/Special-Library-Collections>

Specifically Library at YIVO Institute for Jewish Research

<https://www.yivo.org/online-resources>

Digital Resources at YIVO Institute for Jewish Research

<https://forms.yadvashem.org/pot-online-form>

Page of Testimony Online Form

<https://yvng.yadvashem.org/>

Page of Testimony Forms Already Completed

<https://dbs.anumuseum.org.il/skn/en/c6/bh>

Already Submitted to ANU Museum (type surname or place)

<https://www.anumuseum.org.il/databases/jewish-genealogy/send-us-family-tree/>

Submit Family Tree to ANU Museum

<https://www.ushmm.org/collections/the-museums-collections/donate-to-the-collections>

Donating Collections to U.S. Holocaust Museum

<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/holocaust-reflections-testimonies/behind-every-name-a-story>

Donating Stories to U.S. Holocaust Museum

<https://www.ushmm.org/collections/plan-a-research-visit/visit-the-library-and-archives>

Library and Archives at U.S. Holocaust Museum
(search what has been submitted by clicking search icon)

<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/holocaust-survivors/first-person-conversations-with-survivors/watch-interviews-with-holocaust-survivors>

Survivor Conversations

<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/resources-holocaust-survivors-victims/database-of-holocaust-survivor-and-victim-names>

Database of Holocaust Survivors and Victims Names with 3 options:

1) search names (Holocaust Survivors and Victims Database)

https://www.ushmm.org/online/hsv/person_advance_search.php

2) search for lists

https://www.ushmm.org/online/hsv/source_advance_search.php

3) research names at the Museum

<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/resources-holocaust-survivors-victims/individual-research/services>

http://itsrequest.ushmm.org/its/getting_started.php

Getting Started to Research an Individual

<https://www.ushmm.org/m/pdfs/20121205-its-request-form.pdf>

Request Form

<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/resources-holocaust-survivors-victims/individual-research/services/research-request>

Requester Information

<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/resources-holocaust-survivors-victims/register-a-survivor>

Register a Survivor Form

https://search.cjh.org/primo-explore/search?vid=beta&lang=en_US

Find ten different collections at the Center for Jewish History by scrolling down by the magnifying glass at the above website.

- Center for Jewish History Collections
- CJH Genealogy Resources
- American Jewish Historical Society
- American Sephardi Federation
- Leo Baeck Institute
- Yeshiva University Museum
- YIVO Institute for Jewish Research
- CHJ and Partner Websites
- The Museum of the Jewish People / Beit Hatfutsot (Israel)
- Journal Search

<https://jewishheritagecenter.org/donate-collection>

Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center at NEHGS Archives

<https://digital.americanancestors.org/digital/custom/jhc>

Digital Archives at Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center

<https://www.nyhistory.org/collections-0>

New York Historical Society Archive

<http://www.chicagojewishhistory.org/>

Chicago Jewish Historical Society

<http://www.philajewisharchives.org/>

Philadelphia Jewish Archives Center

<https://www.culturaltourismdc.org/portal/jewish-historical-society-of-greater-washington-dc-and-lillian>

Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington

<https://jewishorangecounty.org/about/who-we-are/historical-society>

Orange County Jewish Historical Society

<https://jewishstudies.rice.edu/houston-jewish-history-archive>

Houston Jewish History Archive

<https://msje.org/our-collection/>

Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience Archive in New Orleans

<https://jmof.fiu.edu/collections/index.html>

Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU Archive

<https://www.thebreman.org/Research/Genealogy>

Breman Museum Archive in Atlanta

<https://detroithistorical.org/collections/about-collections>

Detroit Historical Society Archive

<https://www.jhsum.org/collections>

Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest Archive

<http://gatheringthevoices.com/testimonies/>

Gathering the Voices (holocaust survivor testimonies from Scotland)

<http://jewishhistory.huji.ac.il/Internetresources/societies.htm>

Jewish Historical Societies in U.S., Canada, and England

<https://sfi.usc.edu/full-length-testimonies>

USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive (54,000+ videos)

http://jewishhistory.huji.ac.il/links/jewish_museums.htm

Jewish Museums

<https://www.ala.org/aboutala/affiliates/affiliates/ajl>

Association of Jewish Libraries

<https://www.jewishgen.org/gedcom/>

JewishGen Family Tree of the Jewish People

(click search the database to see family trees already submitted)

(click upload my GEDCOM to upload your GEDCOM)

<https://www.americanjewisharchives.org/>

<http://prestohost54.inmagic.com/Presto/home/home.aspx>

American Jewish Archives

2021 IAJGS Awards

- Lifetime Achievement Award: Nolan Altman
- Nolan Altman Volunteer of the Year: Russ Maurer
- Society Member of the Year: Jewish Genealogy Society of Long Island, Bonnie Birns, President
- Outstanding Project: JewishGen's Online Worldwide Burial Registry, Avraham Groll, JewishGen Executive Director; Nolan Altman, Coordinator of JOWBR
- Outstanding Publication: Australian Jewish Genealogical Society for Kosher Koala, Dani Hashki, editor; Barbara Simon, President, AJGS
- Rabbi Malcolm Stern Grant: American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) Global Archives, Names Indexing Project, Linda Levi, director of JDC Global Archives, and Jeff Edelstein, JDC Archives Digital Initiatives Manager
- John Stedman Memorial Grant: YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, Landsmanshaftn Collection Portal, Hallel Yadin, Archivist, Dr. Stefanie Halpern, Director of YIVO Archives

Jewish Genealogy Lectures in Sarasota

JGS of SW FL Meetings at 1:00 PM

December 19, 2021 The 1950 Census - Are You Ready? by Peggy Jude (Zoom)

January 16, 2022 Geographic Teamwork: Sit with Others Researching Same Country (Aviva, 1951 N. Honore, Sarasota)

February 20, 2022 It's What They Answered To: Understanding Ashkenazi Jewish Names by Emily Garber (Zoom)

March 20, 2022 Help! I got my DNA Results and I'm Confused by Gil Bardige (Zoom)

April 17, 2022 Help! Part II -- I Got My Autosomal DNA Results What are the Next Steps by Gil Bardige (Zoom)

Genealogy Series at 7:00 PM by Temple Sinai

January 18, 2022 Getting Started by Doug Cohen, Kim Sheintal (Temple Sinai, 4631 S. Lockwood Ridge Rd, Sarasota & Zoom)

February 1, 2022 Crossing the Pond by Doug Cohen (Temple Sinai, 4631 S. Lockwood Ridge Rd, Sarasota & Zoom)

February 8, 2022 JewishGen by Avraham Groll (Zoom)

February 15, 2022 JRI Polamd by Robinn Magid (Zoom)

February 22, 2022 DNA Basics by Peggy Jude (Zoom)

March 1, 2022 Ancestry by Crista Cowan (Zoom)

Special \$36 price for JGS of SW FL members. Register at

<https://www.temple-sinai-sarasota.org/event/jewish-genealogy-series.html>

Brandeis National Committee Sarasota Features Genealogy

You must be a 2021/22 BNC member to participate.

Presentations start at 10:30 a.m. and are led by Kim Sheintal.

December 2, 2021 Genealogy Overview (Zoom)

December 9, 2021 How to Make a Family Tree (Zoom)

December 16, 2021 Having Fun with Jewish Genealogy (Zoom)

Genealogy Conferences

42nd IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy takes place in Philadelphia August 21 thru August 25, 2022.

RootsTech 2022, the largest family history event in the world, will be held online March 3 thru March 5, 2022. Register for free at www.rootstech.org today.

Jaffe, Contorer, and Lebovitz

By Kim Sheintal

Like many Jewish families who immigrated to the U.S. around 1900, many of my relatives changed the spelling of their surname and some changed the surname completely. Here are a few examples from my Jaffe, Contorer, and Lebovitz families.

Family story has it that my ggg grandfather Moshe's sons Israel and Harris were peddling ice cream on the boardwalk in New York City when a cop asked for their license. Israel told him Harris had it (Harris did not of course, was arrested) and then Israel fled. He got on a freight train which ended up in New Orleans. When he asked for a train job he was told they did not hire Italians (Yah-fah sounded Italian to the Irish boss). When he said he wasn't Italian, he was told to change his name. The Irish boss picked the name Jeffer, an old Irish name. There are no descendants of Moshe Jaffe using the Jaffe surname, but there are many Jeffer descendants.

When tracing my Contorer surname, the name was changed to Contour by some in my family. Some of my cousins who did not immigrate to the United State spell the name Kontorer.

When tracing my Lebovitz surname, I discovered that two of my grandfather's brothers had children who no longer use the Lebovitz surname. I have cousins on my Lebovitz line who use the surnames Lebovitz, Lee, and Libby.

Genealogy Happiness in Your E-Mail Inbox

It is good news to see no-reply@geni.com in the subject line of email message, because you might have a Smart Match™ for you in family tree collections on MyHeritage.com or a link in the body of the email may show you family updates with people on your tree that have data on Geni.com. E-mails from alerts@myheritage.com is good news too. For some of the results, you need paid subscription to MyHeritage and Geni.

“Smart Matching™ is a powerful genealogy technology that matches people you’ve entered in your family tree with people that other MyHeritage members have entered into their trees. When you add a person to your family tree, MyHeritage’s algorithms will immediately get to work searching our vast database of family trees to find entries that appear to list the same person. Smart Matches™ can help you with your genealogy research in a number of ways. The person who added the same individual to their own family tree may have additional information about him or her that you don’t have yet. This could be anything from birth dates or birth place to additional family members - or even photos. Each individual you add to your tree increases the chance for additional discoveries.” This paragraph is from the following website.

<https://education.myheritage.com/article/what-smart-matches-are-and-how-to-make-the-most-of-them/>

All of your relationship tabs from Geni.com can be viewed at <https://www.geni.com/paths>.

Emails from ancestry@email.ancestry.com are good news too, but you need a paid subscription to see all of your hints.

If you are interested in finding out about your family history, look at the list of Genealogy Websites on the right side of page.

Genealogy: Overwhelming, Tricky, & Rewarding

With each person having two parents, four grandparents, eight great-grandparents, 16 2nd great-grandparents, 32 3rd great-grandparents, 64 4th great-grandparents, 128 5th great-grandparents, 256 6th great-grandparents, and 512 7th great-grandparents, genealogy can be overwhelming.

Genealogy is tricky. Just because the information you find in print does not mean it is true. Errors can creep in due to incomplete research, misinterpreted records, or reliance on inaccurate information. Names have a way of morphing through different documents. Maybe someone tried to hide their age or just didn’t know for sure the exact year they were born. Relatives may have “Americanized” their surnames (and often, given names) to blend in with their new surroundings, distance themselves from ethnic stereotypes, and make their names easier for people to say. Sometimes relatives marry relatives and you are related to people in multiple ways. There is often illegible handwriting in documents and other papers.

In an article (<https://www.czepigalaw.com/blog/6-surprising-benefits-of-researching-your-family-history/>), six surprising benefits of researching your family history were mentioned:

- sense of purpose (intriguing focus)
- sense of belonging (learning where you came from)
- mental stimulation (staving off boredom)
- family connection (bringing family together)
- medical knowledge (identifying potential risk factors)
- social benefits (meeting others interested in genealogy)

Genealogy teaches people about world history, computers, websites, photography, and heirlooms. Genealogy is a long-term process that is challenging and gratifying.

Best Genealogy Websites (per Family Tree Magazine)

Websites for building your family tree

- Ancestry.com
- Archives.com
- FamilySearch
- Findmypast
- MyHeritage

Websites for DNA tests

- 23andMe
- AncestryDNA
- Family Tree DNA
- Living DNA
- MyHeritage

Websites for learning more about genealogy

- Cyndi’s List
- FamilyTreeMagazine.com
- Google
- ThoughtCo (click the free site’s Humanities tab, then History & Culture > Genealogy)
- Your DNA Guide

Websites for exploring regional and ethnic resources

- AfriGeneas
- Irish Genealogy
- JewishGen
- New England Historical Genealogical Society’s American Ancestors

Websites for beginner-friendly records

- BillionGraves
- Chronicling America
- Find a Grave
- Fold3
- GenealogyBank
- NewspaperArchive
- Newspapers.com

Theory of Family Relativity™ on MyHeritage

“The Theory of Family Relativity™ bridges the gap between DNA Matches and family tree data and historical records by providing you with leads that may explain the relationship between your DNA Matches based on the MyHeritage DNA database, as well as our entire collection of family trees and historical records....Theory of Family Relativity™ is a premium feature that requires a site subscription on MyHeritage (Premium, PremiumPlus, or Complete). Users without a MyHeritage plan will still see all the theories that we found for them, but when they click on the theory to view the full details, some of the information will be hidden. Users who upload their raw DNA data from another testing service to MyHeritage can pay a one-time fee of \$29 per kit to unlock all advanced DNA features offered by MyHeritage, including Theory of Family Relativity™.

<https://blog.myheritage.com/2021/02/update-to-theory-of-family-relativity-4/>

An actual family tree chart is sent via email and easy to read.

2021 IAJGS Board

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